

TRAFFIC MERGING SYSTEM

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

10 Traffic is transported within a system in the form of TDM packets. These packets are generated at source line units and transported from the line units to a switch. The switch routes the packets to appropriate target line units based on information contained within the packet. At the switch, packets from the source line units may be merged. A gather function relies on each of the line units sourcing packets to exclusively drive lines at software-assigned timeslots within the packet. The switch performs a simple OR function of each byte in merging the packet
15 payloads.